

COUNCIL MINUTES

October 2, 2000

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on October 2, 2000 at 4:30 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Jim Davidson
Bill Jaffa
Dennis Kavanaugh
Pat Pomeroy
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Neal Beets
Barbara Jones

1. Review items on the agenda for the October 2, 2000 Regular Council Meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff with no formal action taken. There was specific discussion relative to the following items:

At the request of Councilmember Pomeroy, Mayor Hawker stated that agenda items 8 c through g (See Regular Council Meeting Agenda) will be added to the consent agenda.

2. Discuss and consider the recruitment of prospects to be considered for appointment to one of the City's citizen advisory boards and committees and the process for the Mayor's recommendation of citizens for appointment.

Assistant to the City Manager Ellen Pence addressed the Council relative to this agenda item and explained that the recruitment process for citizen advisory boards and committees addresses two major areas including outreach and recruitment, and vacancies, reappointments and new appointments. Ms. Pence commented that it is staff's goal to maintain an active prospect list and also to cultivate future community leaders. Ms. Pence also advised that in an effort to educate citizens regarding the importance of serving on boards and committees, staff presentations are made at various professional organizations, homeowners associations and neighborhood groups. Ms. Pence stated that information is also posted on Mesa Channel 11, the City's web site and in the monthly utility newsletter. Ms. Pence added that staff also pursues potential leads which are generated by the Mayor, Councilmembers, City staff and other community members.

Ms. Pence noted that with the occurrence of a board vacancy, staff examines the qualifications of the specific slot to determine the necessity for expertise in a particular field of endeavor, geographic representation, ethnicity, philosophy, male/female representation, profession and general interest. Ms. Pence explained it is imperative that the boards and committees maintain a

balance of opinions and perspectives. Ms. Pence remarked that board and committee members are eligible to serve two-year terms, and when vacancies occur, the Mayor is provided with a list of prospects from which recommendations are made to the Council for consideration. Ms. Pence added that after the appointments, board and committee members receive ethics training.

Ms. Pence informed the Council that Mesa participated with the City of Glendale in conducting a survey regarding the selection process for board/committee members in other Arizona communities. Ms. Pence requested input from the Council relative to recruitment and selection alternatives.

Councilmember Kavanaugh spoke in appreciation of Ms. Pence's presentation and commended staff on the difficult and complex task of enticing citizens to serve on Mesa's boards and committees. Councilmember Kavanaugh also concurred with the utilization of the City's web site and Mesa Channel 11 as a means by which to disseminate information to the viewing public. Councilmember Kavanaugh suggested that staff consider the utilization of Mesa Channel 11 to highlight different boards and committees on a monthly basis.

Vice Mayor Davidson concurred with the opinions of Councilmember Kavanaugh and also encouraged staff to consider the appointment of a Government Services Committee (currently the practice at the City of Glendale) to review and recommend prospective board/committee members to the Council. Vice Mayor Davidson spoke in support of an annual gathering of Mesa's citizen advisory groups which would foster a meaningful exchange of ideas among the members.

In response to a question from Councilmember Pomeroy, Ms. Pence clarified that when a board/committee placement has not been successful, staff endeavors to provide alternative suggestions to enable the citizen to continue to participate in community service activities.

In response to a question from Councilmember Walters, City Attorney Neal Beets clarified that Mesa's City Charter states that the Mayor appoints individuals to serve on citizen advisory boards and committees subject to concurrence by the Council. Councilmember Walters commented on the fact that the utilization of a Government Services Committee would not be appropriate based on the current language in the City Charter and also expressed concern relative to the abrogation of the meaning of the Charter without voter input.

In response to a question from Councilmember Walters, Ms. Pence clarified that although it is the consensus of staff that broadcasting monthly citizen advisory board meetings on Mesa's Channel 11 would not build consistency in audience viewership, alternative programming was suggested regarding various City projects, including Councilmember participation. Councilmember Walters encouraged staff to provide additional input relative to this topic.

Mayor Hawker encouraged Mesa's citizens to participate on a variety of committees and projects and also directed Ms. Pence to share the "prospect list" with John Giles and Pat Gilbert, co-chairmen of the Mesa 2025 Shared Vision Committee, in an effort to garner input and participation from interested members of the community. Mayor Hawker expressed the opinion that as an alternative to a traditional awards ceremony to recognize the service of the board and committee members, he would favor an informational program to educate the participants on major issues concerning the City of Mesa.

Councilmember Jaffa concurred with the opinions of Councilmember Walters and added that the Mayor has a tremendous prerogative with respect to board/committee appointments despite the fact Council approval is necessary.

Vice Mayor Davidson reiterated his support for the formation of a Government Services Committee and urged staff to further consider this option.

Mayor Hawker thanked Ms. Pence for her presentation.

3. Consider a request from the MAG Homeless Steering Committee for City of Mesa financial assistance in the amount of \$7,195.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Davidson, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that staff's recommendation be approved.

Carried unanimously.

4. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

a. Parks and Recreation Board meeting held September 14.

It was moved by Councilmember Jaffa, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Carried unanimously.

5. Hear reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

Mayor Hawker reported on his recent attendance at the League of Cities and Towns Meeting in Prescott and noted that he was elected to a two-year term on the Board of Directors.

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, October 3, 2000, 8:30 a.m. – General Development Committee Meeting

Tuesday, October 3, 2000, 6:00 p.m. – Joint Master Planning Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 5, 2000, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session (Cancelled)

Tuesday, October 10, 2000, 4:00 p.m. – Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 11, 2000, 4:00 p.m. – Utility Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 11, 2000, 5:45 p.m. – Special Council Meeting

Thursday, October 12, 2000, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, October 12, 2000, 9:30 a.m. – Transportation Committee Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2000, 3:30 p.m. – General Development Committee Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2000, TBA – Study Session

Monday, October 16, 2000, 5:45 – Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2000, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session (Cancelled)

Councilmember Pomeroy reminded everyone that Fire Prevention Week begins on Saturday, October 7, 2000.

7. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

8. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

KENO HAWKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 2nd day of October, 2000. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 2000

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK